Serial No.: 09/966,094 Docket No.: 0023-0040

## **REMARKS**

In the final Office Action of March 14, 2005, the Examiner maintained the previous rejection of claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0012288 to <u>Yu</u> ("Yu"). Claims 3-6 were objected to by the Examiner as being dependent on a base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 9-24 were allowed.

By this Amendment, Applicant proposes amending claim 1 to incorporate the features of claim 3, canceling claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amending claims 4 and 5 to depend from claim 1 instead of the now-canceled claim 3.

As discussed in the previous Amendment, Applicant does not agree with the rejection of claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 based on Yu. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 1 to contain the features of claim 3, which the Examiner indicates as including allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is obviated and should be withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2, 7, and 8, at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1, is also obviated.

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1, 2, and 4-24 in condition for allowance.

Applicants submit that the entry of this Amendment would not require any further search by the Examiner since the claimed subject-matter was indicated by the Examiner as being allowable.

Serial No.: 09/966,094

Docket No.: 0023-0040

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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the pending claims.